

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Frederick Samuels on 4/16/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

**Claim 9**, line 3, "and a looped end Velcro." was replaced by - - and a hook and loop fastener.

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: **Claim 5** has not been rejected using prior art because no references, or reasonable combination thereof, could be found which disclose or suggest a tourniquet article comprising: a strap in communication with said handle, the strap being engaged with said base at a first point upstream from said handle and fixedly attached to said base at a second point downstream from said handle such that said handle is maintained in a position relative to said substantially rigid base to reduce binding of said base when said handle is twisted, wherein said handle is a rod including notches disposed at first and second end portions, in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations as set forth in claim 5.

**As to claim 23**, the prior art does not teach the invention including a rigid base; a strap disposed to the rigid base and in communication with a handle and a structural member having

first and second sides, said structural member being fixedly attached to said base at least at first and second points along each of the first and second sides, said strap being sandwiched between at least portion of said structural member and said base to minimize twisting of said strap.

**As to claim 25**, the prior art does not teach the invention including a strap configured to be tightened about an injured limb, said strap being engaged with said handle and being engaged with said substantially rigid base at i) a first point upstream from said handle and ii) at a second point downstream from said handle such that said substantially rigid base is maintained in underlying relationship to said handle thereby reducing binding of said substantially rigid base when said handle is twisted; and a buckle connected to and disposed proximate and end portion of said substantially rigid base, said buckle being adapted to engage said strap to secure said tourniquet in a deployed arrangement, in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations as set forth in claim 25.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VICTOR X. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-4699. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8-4.30 P.M).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anhtuan Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-4963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Victor X Nguyen/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3731

**/Michael J Milano/**

**for SPE of Art Unit 3731**